



STATE OF MICHIGAN

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

June 6, 2005

Memorandum to the Natural Resources Commission

SUBJECT: Antlerless Deer Quotas

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

There will be four deer management units (DMUs) in the Upper Peninsula (UP) that will not have antlerless licenses available in 2005. The remaining 15 DMUs in the UP will have private land antlerless licenses available and public land antlerless licenses will be available in 10 DMUs. The areas with antlerless licenses have agricultural crop damage, range damage to forest regeneration, and/or excessive vehicle-deer accidents. Antlerless deer hunting license availability in the UP has been designed to reflect an overall reduction in the deer herd. In some DMUs the goal is to reduce deer populations to better balance deer numbers with habitat. In other DMUs, the goal is to maintain current population levels or permit a limited increase in the population. There will be 10,300 public land and 37,500 private land antlerless licenses available in the UP.

Two of the 30 Northern Lower Peninsula (NLP) DMUs will have no antlerless licenses available. The Department has been successful in reducing the deer herd in the NLP. Many of the DMUs in the west NLP are at or slightly below goal. Public land antlerless licenses will not be available in any of the DMUs in the Northwest Management Unit of the NLP. The population is at or near goal in most units in the Northeast Management Unit. Antlerless license availability in these areas has been designed to maintain or reduce the deer population. There will be 17,200 public land and 111,700 private land antlerless licenses available in the NLP.

The deer herd in southern Lower Peninsula (SLP) has remained over goal in recent years. Liberal antlerless licenses have been available to help reduce the deer population. Deer-vehicle accidents and crop depredation concerns remain high in many counties in the SLP. Private land antlerless license quotas in most DMUs in the SLP are sufficient to provide private land hunters with one or more licenses. The quotas are designed to reduce or at least maintain the current deer population in the SLP. There will be 41,400 public land and 448,700 private land antlerless licenses available in the SLP.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Keith J. Charters-Chair • Mary Brown • Darnell Earley • Bob Garner • Gerald Hall • John Madigan • Frank Wheatlake

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Statewide, these recommendations provide 666,800 antlerless licenses, compared to the 715,700 available in 2004. Including deer taken during the archery season, the statewide harvest of antlerless deer is expected to exceed 200,000 deer, primarily in the SLP.

Private land antlerless deer license sales will begin at 10 a.m. on August 2, 2005. For those DMUs authorized to sell leftover public land antlerless licenses, those licenses will be offered over-the-counter beginning at 10 a.m. on September 26, 2005.

The Wildlife Division Chief may recommend to the Director the need for any appropriate minor changes to antlerless quotas based on new information. The Director, in consultation with the Natural Resources Commission, may make minor changes in the quota of antlerless licenses to address this new information.

Recommendation:

This order is being submitted for information and consideration. This item will be submitted for final action on July 7, 2005.

William E. Moritz, Chief
Wildlife Division

Alan Marble, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Arminda S. Koch,
Resource Management Deputy

Dennis Fedewa
Chief Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 14 of 2005

Under the authority of sections 40107 and 40113a, Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, being sections 324.40107 and 324.40113a of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources ordered that effective July 8, 2005, the following section of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3105 Antlerless only license quotas.

Sec. 3.105. (1)The Director, in consultation with and concurrence of the Chair or Vice Chair of the Natural Resources Commission, may make appropriate minor changes to antlerless deer quotas established in 3.105(b) to meet disease control, population goal, or other management objectives.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section the antlerless deer license quotas for 2005 are as follows:

DMU Number	DMU Name	Public License	Private License	Total
1	Alcona County	3,000	6,000	9,000
3	Allegan County	3,000	12,000	15,000
4	Alpena County	900	4,500	5,400
5	Antrim County	200	4,000	4,200
6	Arenac County	500	8,000	8,500
7	Big Bay Unit	0	0	0
8	Barry County	1,500	17,000	18,500
9	Bay County	100	3,000	3,100
10	Benzie County	0	400	400
11	Berrien County	200	5,000	5,200
12	Branch County	100	12,000	12,100
13	Calhoun County	100	16,000	16,100
14	Cass County	500	12,000	12,500
15	Charlevoix County	200	2,800	3,000
16	Cheboygan County	200	800	1,000
17	Sault Ste. Marie Unit	500	2,500	3,000
18	Clare County	1,000	12,200	13,200
19	Clinton County	1,200	13,000	14,200
20	Crawford County	1,300	1,000	2,300
21	Manistique Unit	0	0	0
22	Iron Mountain Unit	2,500	4,000	6,500

DMU Number	DMU Name	Public License	Private License	Total
23	Eaton County	100	12,800	12,900
24	Emmet County	300	2,000	2,300
25	Genesee County	0	9,000	9,000
26	Gladwin County	700	8,000	8,700
27	Watersmeet Unit	1,000	1,300	2,300
28	Grand Traverse County	0	300	300
29	Gratiot County	1,600	8,500	10,100
30	Hillsdale County	400	15,000	15,400
32	Huron County	1,000	10,000	11,000
33	Ingham County	600	10,000	10,600
34	Ionia County	1,200	14,300	15,500
35	Iosco County	1,100	6,000	7,100
36	Amasa/Michigamme Unit	0	2,000	2,000
37	Isabella County	100	15,000	15,100
38	Jackson County	1,600	20,000	21,600
39	Kalamazoo County	1,500	10,000	11,500
40	Kalkaska County	0	100	100
41	Kent County	1,100	12,500	13,600
42	Keweenaw Unit	0	0	0
43	Lake County	0	0	0
44	Lapeer County	3,500	19,500	23,000
45	Leelanau County	0	500	500
46	Lenawee County	400	9,500	9,900
47	Livingston County	1,300	15,000	16,300
48	Newberry Unit	0	0	0
49	Trout Lake Unit	0	3,000	3,000
50	Macomb County	200	3,200	3,400
51	Manistee County	0	3,000	3,000
53	Mason County	0	5,000	5,000
54	Mecosta County	0	14,000	14,000
55	Menominee Unit	2,300	14,000	16,300

DMU Number	DMU Name	Public License	Private License	Total
56	Midland County	2,500	12,000	14,500
57	Missaukee County	0	5,000	5,000
58	Monroe County	400	1,800	2,200
59	Montcalm County	1,000	19,000	20,000
60	Montmorency County	2,000	6,000	8,000
61	Muskegon County	800	6,500	7,300
62	Newaygo County	0	8,000	8,000
63	Oakland County	3,500	9,500	13,000
64	Oceana County	0	5,000	5,000
65	Ogemaw County	1,300	10,500	11,800
66	Ontonagon County	0	800	800
67	Osceola County	0	6,000	6,000
68	Oscoda County	2,200	3,000	5,200
69	Otsego County	300	900	1,200
70	Ottawa County	400	9,000	9,400
71	Presque Isle County	1,000	4,500	5,500
72	Roscommon County	2,000	3,000	5,000
73	Saginaw County	200	5,000	5,200
74	St. Clair County	800	8,500	9,300
75	St. Joseph County	300	8,000	8,300
76	Sanilac County	1,500	14,000	15,500
78	Shiawassee County	200	13,000	13,200
79	Tuscola County	2,700	14,000	16,700
80	Van Buren County	200	10,000	10,200
81	Washtenaw County	1,500	14,000	15,500
82	Wayne County	100	1,200	1,300
83	Wexford County	0	0	0
115	Beaver Island	300	700	1,000
117	Drummond Island	100	300	400
121	Bay De Noc	400	1,000	1,400
122	Norway Unit	200	2,500	2,700

DMU Number	DMU Name	Public License	Private License	Total
135	Tawas Unit	200	600	800
145	North Manitou Island Round/Bois Blanc	0	0	0
149	Island	100	100	200
152	Gwinn Unit	0	500	500
155	Gladstone Unit	800	3,600	4,400
173	Shiawassee Flats	1,400	400	1,800
174	St. Clair Flats	400	300	700
245	South Fox Island	0	0	0
252	Rock Unit	0	1,000	1,000
255	LaBranche Unit	2,500	1,000	3,500
273	Shiawassee Unit	0	0	0
452	Core Area	600	8,000	8,600
Total		68,900	597,900	666,800

Issued this 7th day of July, 2005.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Keith J. Charters, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

